

Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 ACDA-19 MC-02 AID-20 RSR-01

OMB-01 TRSE-00 /122 W

----- 097474

R 150730 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4453

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L VALLETTA 1204

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MT, IT, LY, MILI

SUBJECT: LIBYAN AGUSTA BELL HELICOPTER TO MALTA

REF: STATE 110885

1. DATT, BEFORE HE WENT ON SHORT LEAVE, OBTAINED INFORMATION THAT FRAME NUMBER OF JET RANGER HELICOPTER IS 8165 REPEAT 8165. WHEN DATT RETURNS THIS WEEKEND HE WILL PURSUE QUESTION RAISED REFTEL ON WHERE LIBYANS ORIGINALLY OBTAINED HELICOPTERS. WE HAVE ALSO ASKED COMMANDER BRITISH FORCES MALTA IF HE COULD OBTAIN THROUGH HIS RAF COMPONENT ANY FURTHER INFORMATION ON ORIGIN AND HE PROMISED TO TRY.

2. IN DATT CABLED REPORT DTG 071207 Z JUN 73, HE REPORTED FROM A MALTESE MILITARY SOURCE THAT ANOTHER HELICOPTER EXPECTED FROM LIBYA WHICH WOULD BE CONFIGURED AS AIR AMBULANCE. SAME SOURCE REPORTED THAT FIRST HELICOPTER ARRIVED WITH TWO PILOTS AND TWO OR THREE SGTS. HE THOUGH PILOTS WERE EGYPTIAN AND
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SGLS POSSIBLY LIBYANS. IF TRUE, NOT CLEAR WHETHER
PERSONNEL ARE TEMPORARY OR PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED. WE
WILL PURSUE THIS ASPECT.

3. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION ON ANY OTHER MILITARY EQUIPMENT
OFFERED BY LIBYANS. ITALIAN AMBASSADOR, HOWEVER, UNDER-
STANDS PRIME MINISTER HAS ASKED LIBYANS FOR 4000 RIFLES
FOR HIS NEW PIONEER CORPS, AN ELEMENT OF ARMED FORCES
MALTA DESTINED PRINCIPALLY FOR PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS.
APPEARS UNLIKELY MALTESE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ANY
HEAVY MILITARY EQUIPMENT OR WEAPONS SYSTEMS IN VIEW
OF LIMITED CAPABILITIES AND LACK OF MISSION. GETZ

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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30 JUN 2005

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To: EUR
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